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Eurozone business growth slumped in June as price hikes bite

Eurozone business growth has slowed significantly this month and by much more than expected, as consumers concerned about soaring bills opted to stay at home and defer purchases to save money, a survey showed on Thursday. "Eurozone economic growth is showing signs of faltering as the tailwind of pent-up demand from the pandemic is already fading". (www.reuters.com 23/06/22)

Eurozone private sector growth at 16-month low

The euro area private sector expanded at the slowest pace in more than a year in June as the manufacturing output contracted for the first time in two years and growth in the service sector eased sharply, data from S&P Global shows. The flash composite output index fell to a 16-month low of 51.9 in June from 54.8 in the previous month. (www.rttnews.com 23/06/22)

ECB raises deposit rate in September

The European Central Bank will raise its deposit rate above zero for the first time in a decade in Sept; economists say, who expect it to be at least 50 basis points higher than anticipated by year-end. While economists say Eurozone inflation is yet to peak, the ECB has given itself some room to catch up with its global peers, who are rapidly hiking rates to neutral. (www.reuters.com 23/06/22)

US recession fears darken outlook for global growth

Manufacturing growth is slowing from Asia to Europe as China's COVID-19 curbs and Russia's invasion of Ukraine disrupt supply chains while the growing risk of a recession in the US poses a new threat to the global economy. High prices in the Eurozone meant demand for manufactured goods fell in June at the fastest rate since May 2020. (www.reuters.com 23/06/22)

US jobless claims edge slightly lower

First-time claims for US unemployment benefits edged slightly lower in the week ended June 18, according to the Labor Department. It showed initial jobless claims dipped to 229,000, a decrease of 2,000 from the previous week's revised level of 231,000. Economists had expected jobless claims to slip to 227,000 from the 229,000 originally reported for the previous week. (www.rttnews.com 23/06/22)

China's financial market sees improved capability in serving real economy

China's financial market saw improvements in its capability to serve the real economy over the past decade, according to the central bank of China. During this period, the financial industry reported steady growth with reasonably ample liquidity, said Chen Yulu, Vice Governor of the People's Bank of China. (www.xinhuanet.com 23/06/22)

Inflation pushes UK government interest costs to May record

Surging inflation led interest payments on government debt to hit the highest amount for May on record. Interest payments paid by the government for last month hit £7.6bn, up £3.1bn from a year earlier. Government borrowing fell in May from a year earlier but still remained higher than pre-Covid levels. (www.bbc.com 23/06/22)

German economy loses momentum at the end of Q2 - PMI

The German economy, Europe's largest, suffered a sharp loss of momentum at the end of the second quarter, with falling exports acting as a drag and economic uncertainty and inflation weighing on domestic demand, a preliminary survey shows. S&P Global's flash Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) for services fell to 52.4 in June from May's final reading of 55.0. (www.reuters.com 23/06/22)

EXCHANGE RATES OF SELECTED CURRENCIES

CURRENCIES	BUYING		SELLING	
+USD/GBP	1.2261	(1.2307)	1.2262	(1.2308)
+USD/EUR	1.0517	(1.0595)	1.0518	(1.0595)
*GHS/USD	7.2074	(7.2024)	7.2146	(7.2146)
*GHS/GBP	8.8370	(8.8701)	8.8465	(8.8797)
*GHS/EUR	7.5802	(7.6361)	7.5877	(7.6437)

+SOURCE: BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 24/06/22 (Rates for 23/06/22 in brackets)

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Japan inflation jumps 2.5% on year in May

Consumer prices in Japan were up 2.5% on year in May, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications has said. That was in line with expectations and unchanged from the previous month. On a seasonally adjusted monthly basis, overall inflation rose 0.2% again in line with expectations and slowing from 0.4% in April. (www.rttnews.com 23/06/22)

French private sector growth at 5-month low

French private sector activity expanded at the weakest pace in five months, due to weakening trends in both services and manufacturing, data from S&P Global shows. The flash composite output index, which combines manufacturing and services, dropped to 52.8 in June from 57.0 in May. (www.rttnews.com 23/06/22)

Malaysia inflation accelerates more than forecast

Malaysia's consumer price inflation accelerated at a faster-than-expected pace in May, data from the Department of Statistics showed. The consumer price index climbed 2.8% year-over-year in May, faster than the 2.3% rise in April. Economists had expected inflation to increase to 2.6%. (www.rttnews.com 24/06/22)

Thai MPC split over rate hikes, minutes show

The Bank of Thailand's monetary policy committee was split over its June 8 decision to hold rates, the bank has said. Thailand's year-on-year inflation rate rose to 7.1% in May, above the central bank's target range of 1% to 3%. Three dissenting members of the seven-member MPC voted to raise the policy rate by 0.25 basis points at its last meeting. (www.centralbanking.com 23/06/22)

Taiwan jobless rate rises in May

Taiwan's unemployment rate increased marginally in May, the Directorate General of Budget Accounting & Statistics showed on Thursday. The seasonally adjusted jobless rate rose to 3.73% in May from 3.68% in April. In the corresponding month last year, the unemployment rate was 4.19%. (www.rttnews.com 23/06/22)

Oil futures settle lower on demand concerns

Oil futures slid on Thursday, losing ground for a second straight session on concerns about outlook for energy demand amid rising possibility of a recession. Brent crude futures settled at \$110.05 a barrel today, down \$1.69 or about 1.5% from the previous close. (www.rttnews.com 23/06/22)

Africa must end food, pharma import dependence, AfDB president says

Africa must wean itself off dependence on food and medicine imports, the President of the African Development Bank (AfDB) said, as the institution approved creation of a pharmaceutical tech foundation and began processing requests for food relief. Africa was hit hard by the economic fallout from the Covid pandemic. (www.reuters.com 23/06/22)

More African Central Banks are exploring digital currencies

Several sub-Saharan African central banks are exploring or in the pilot phase of a digital currency, following Nigeria's Oct introduction of e-Naira. Nigeria was the second country after the Bahamas to roll out a CBDC. CBDCs are digital versions of cash that are more secure and less volatile than crypto assets because they are issued and regulated by central banks. (www.norvanreports.com 24/06/22)

IMF releases \$216m to Senegal

The International Monetary Fund has released nearly \$216m for Senegal after a review of its aid programs for the West African country. The Executive Board of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) announced on Wednesday June 22. "The completion of the audits allows the immediate release of about \$215.78m," the institution said. (www.africanews.com 23/06/22)

Tunisia's trade union centre rejects IMF reforms

The head of Tunisia's powerful trade union centre, the UGTT, on Thursday rejected reforms demanded by the International Monetary Fund as a condition for granting a loan to Tunisia. "We refuse these conditions of the IMF". (www.africanews.com 23/06/22)

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